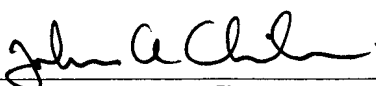
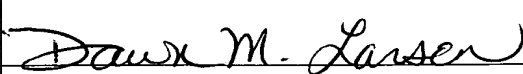


<b>AMENDMENT TRANSMITTAL LETTER (Large Entity)</b>				Docket No. <b>26978 USA</b>	
Applicant(s): <b>Dole</b>					
Application No. <b>10/734,040</b>	Filing Date <b>Dec. 10, 2003</b>	Examiner <b>A. Dunwoody</b>	Customer No. <b>23307</b>	Group Art Unit <b>3679</b>	Confirmation No. <b>9198</b>
<div style="display: flex; align-items: center;"> <div style="border: 2px solid black; border-radius: 50%; padding: 10px; margin-right: 10px; text-align: center;"> <b>PIPE</b>  NOV 14 2005  PATENT &amp; TRADEMARK OFFICE </div> <div> Invention: <b>FLEXIBLE PIPE COUPLING</b> </div> </div>					
<b>COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS:</b>					
Transmitted herewith is an amendment in the above-identified application.					
The fee has been calculated and is transmitted as shown below.					
<b>CLAIMS AS AMENDED</b>					
	CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT	HIGHEST # PREV. PAID FOR	NUMBER EXTRA CLAIMS PRESENT	RATE	ADDITIONAL FEE
TOTAL CLAIMS	14 -	20 =	0	x \$50.00	\$0.00
INDEP. CLAIMS	2 -	3 =	0	x \$200.00	\$0.00
Multiple Dependent Claims (check if applicable) <input type="checkbox"/>					\$0.00
<b>TOTAL ADDITIONAL FEE FOR THIS AMENDMENT</b>					<b>\$0.00</b>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No additional fee is required for amendment. <input type="checkbox"/> Please charge Deposit Account No. _____ in the amount of _____ <input type="checkbox"/> A check in the amount of _____ to cover the filing fee is enclosed. <input type="checkbox"/> The Director is hereby authorized to charge payment of the following fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account <input type="checkbox"/> Any additional filing fees required under 37 C.F.R. 1.16. <input type="checkbox"/> Any patent application processing fees under 37 CFR 1.17. <input type="checkbox"/> Payment by credit card. Form PTO-2038.					
<b>WARNING: Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.</b>					
 _____ Signature			Dated: <b>November 9, 2005</b>		
<b>John A. Chionchio, Reg. No. 40,954</b> <b>Synnestvedt &amp; Lechner LLP</b> <b>1101 Market Street, Suite 2600</b> <b>Philadelphia, PA 19107-2950</b>  <b>Telephone: 215-923-4466</b> <b>Facsimile: 215-923-2189</b>			I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to "Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450" [37 CFR 1.8(a)] on November 9, 2005 _____ (Date)   _____ Signature of Person Mailing Correspondence  <b>Dawn M. Larsen</b> _____ Typed or Printed Name of Person Mailing Correspondence		
CC:					



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November 9, 2005

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re\ Application of: Douglas R. Dole

Appln. No.: 10/734,040 Examiner: A. Dunwoody

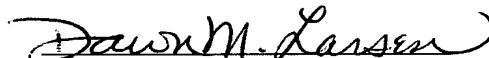
Filed: December 10, 2003 Group Art Unit: 3679

For: FLEXIBLE PIPE COUPLING

(Atty. Docket No. 26978 USA)

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first-class mail, postage prepaid, in an envelope addressed to:  
Commissioner for Patents, Mail Stop RCE, P. O. Box 1450,  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on November 9, 2005.

  
Dawn M. Larsen

RESPONSE TO THE OFFICE ACTION  
DATED OCTOBER 20, 2005  
PURSUANT TO 37 CFR §1.114

Commissioner for Patents  
Mail Stop RCE  
P. O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated October 20, 2005,  
please amend the application as follows.

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION  
DATED OCTOBER 20, 2005

Appln. No. 10/734,040

- 2 -

November 9, 2005

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 3 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims begin on page 5 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 10 of this paper.